Additional power generation capacity

†*20. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 2000 MW additional power could be generated in the Eastern and North Eastern region of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this additional power is not being utilized in the power-stricken Northern region; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) Maximum possible generation is being done in Eastern and North Eastern Regions. However, due to shortage of gas, poor Plant Load Factor of some of the State owned thermal power stations, outage of old generating units for capital overhaul and renovation and modernization, it has not been possible to utilize full available generating capacity in the region. As a result, Eastern Region experienced energy and peaking shortage of 1.9% and 4.2% respectively and North Eastern region faced energy and peaking shortage of 8% and 15.9% respectively during June, 2006.

The surplus power is available in the Eastern Region from time to time, particularly during off-peak hours. Most of the power from unallocated quota of NTPC stations of Eastern Region and major portion of firm share of DVC in NTPC stations of Eastern Region has been allocated to States in other regions. Presently, three States of Northern Region, namely, Rajasthan, J&Kand UP. have been allocated power from the unallocated quota of Central Generation Stations (CGSs) in the Eastern Region. States of Eastern Region also sell power to states in other regions either through Power Traders or through bilateral agreements from time to time. During 2005-06 Eastern Regional contributed maximum quantum of about 12719 Million Units (MU) (about 60%) in the total inter-regional exchanges in the country aggregating to about 21,000 MU. Eastern Region exported about 4126 MU to Northern Region and North Eastern Region exported 457 MU.

Tala HEP in Bhutan, with installed capacity of 1020 MW, is likely to be commissioned during the current financial year. It has been decided that

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the power generated from Tala HEP would be available to Eastern Region (ER) and equivalent thermal power will be made available to the Northern Region (NR) from the thermal power stations located in the Eastern Region. Integration of NR with ER has been planned under the Tala Transmission system which would provide inter-regional transmission capacity of 2000 MW between ER and NR.

Setting-up of Food Processing Units in Rural and Urban Areas

1. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of subsidies/grants available for setting-up food processing units in rural/urban areas, separately;

(b) whether it is a fact that subsidies/grants in respect of certain industries have been withdrawn recently;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) Subsidies/grants for setting up food processing units are available for both rural or urban areas at the same rates. The details are given below:

Scheme/Programme	Rates of Grant-in-aid
Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/Modernization Processing Industries	25% (subject to a maximum of Rs.50/- lakh in General Areas) and 33.33% of Food (subject to a maximum of Rs. 75/- lakh in Different Areas i.e. J&K, Himachal Pradesh,Uttaranchal,Sikkim, North-Eastern States, Andaman & Nicobar Islands.Lakshadweep, Integrated Tribal Development Project Areas) of the cost of Plant & Machinery and Technical Civil Works,

(b) to (d) Financial assistance for setting up/upgradation of projects related to soft drinks/aerated water/mineral water including natural spring water were stopped w.e.f. 06.02.04. Similarly, financial assistance to rice mills, flour mills and pulse processing units were discontinued w.e.f.